AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for conducting a transaction, the method comprising:

- a. receiving, at a <u>first</u> server, a transaction request from a user <u>for a transaction at a</u> merchant server;
 - b. issuing a challenge to the user;
 - c. receiving a response from the user based upon said challenge;
 - d. processing said response to verify an instrument;
- e. assembling credentials for the transaction at said <u>first</u> server, said credentials comprising at least one key;
 - f. providing at least a portion of said assembled credentials to said user;
- g. receiving, at [[said]] a second server, a second request from said user, said second request including said portion of said assembled credentials provided to said user; and
- h. validating, at said <u>second</u> server, said portion of said assembled credentials provided to said user with said key of said assembled credentials to provide access to a transaction service.
- Claim 2 (original): The method of Claim 1, wherein the transaction is an electronic purchase transaction.

Claim 3 (original): The method of Claim 2, wherein the electronic purchase transaction is conducted using a digital wallet.

Claim 4 (original): The method of Claim 1, wherein the instrument is a smartcard.

Claims 5-42 (cancelled)

Claim 43 (currently amended): A method for conducting a transaction, the method comprising:

- a. receiving, at a <u>first</u> server, a transaction request from a user <u>for a transaction at a</u> merchant <u>server</u>;
 - b. issuing a challenge to the user;
 - c. receiving a response from the user based upon said challenge;
 - d. processing said response to verify the user;
- e. assembling credentials for the transaction at said <u>first</u> server, said credentials comprising at least one key;
 - f. providing at least a portion of said assembled credentials to said user;
- g. receiving, at [[said]] <u>a second</u> server, a second request from said user said second request including said portion of said assembled credentials provided to said user; and
- h. validating, at said <u>second</u> server, said portion of said assembled credentials provided to said user with said key of said assembled credentials to provide access to a transaction service.

Claim 44 (previously presented): The method of Claim 43, wherein the transaction is an electronic purchase transaction.

Claim 45 (previously presented): The method of Claim 44, wherein the electronic purchase transaction is conducted using a digital wallet.

Claim 46 (previously amended): The method of Claim 43, wherein the user conducts the transaction via a smartcard.

Claims 47-89 (canceled).

Claim 90 (currently amended): A method for conducting a transaction, the method comprising:

- receiving, at a first server, a transaction request from a user for a transaction at a merchant server;
 - issuing a challenge to the user; Ъ.
 - receiving a response from the user based upon said challenge; c.
 - processing said response to verify an instrument; đ.
- assembling credentials for the transaction at said first server, said credentials e. comprising at least one key;
 - providing at least a portion of said assembled credentials to said user; f.
- receiving, at [[said]] a second server, a second request from said user indicating g. readiness to complete the transaction, said second request including said portion of said assembled credentials provided to said user; and
- validating, at said second server, said portion of said assembled credentials provided h. to said user with said key of said assembled credentials to thereby permit processing and completion of said transaction.

Claim 91 (currently amended): The method of claim 90, further comprising the steps of:

- accessing required information associated with said user from said second server; i.
- populating one or more corresponding user purchase forms at said second server j. with said required information; and
- said second server providing said populated user purchase forms and an k. authorization response message to a merchant for processing and completion of said transaction.

Claim 92 (previously presented): The method of claim 91, wherein said transaction is an electronic purchase transaction.

Claim 93 (previously presented): The method of claim 91, wherein said transaction is a web-based purchase transaction.

Claim 94 (previously presented): The method of claim 92, wherein the electronic purchase transaction is conducted using a digital wallet.

Claim 95 (previously presented): The method of claim 93, wherein the web-based purchase transaction is conducted using a digital wallet.

Claim 96 (previously presented): The method of claim 90, wherein the instrument is a smartcard.

Claim 97 (previously presented): The method of claim 91, wherein said required information includes user name, user address, shipping address, card number, and payment amount.

Claim 98 (currently amended): A method for conducting an electronic purchase transaction, the method comprising:

- receiving, at a first server, a transaction request from a user for a transaction at a a. merchant server;
 - issuing a challenge to the user; b.
 - receiving a response from the user based upon said challenge; C.
 - processing said response to verify an instrument; đ.
- assembling, at said first server, credentials for the transaction, said credentials ę. comprising at least one key;
 - providing at least a portion of said assembled credentials to said user, f.
 - said user indicating readiness to complete said purchase transaction; g.
- receiving, at [[said]] a second server, a second request from said user, said second h. request including said portion of said assembled credentials provided to said user;

- i. validating, at said <u>second</u> server, said portion of said assembled credentials provided to said user with said key of said assembled credentials to thereby permit processing and completion of said transaction;
 - j. accessing required information associated with said user from said second server;
- k. populating, at said <u>second</u> server, one or more corresponding user purchase forms with said required information; and
- said <u>second</u> server providing said populated user purchase forms and an authorization response message to a merchant for processing and completing said purchase transaction.

Claim 99 (currently amended): The method of claim 98, further comprising the steps of:

- m. receiving said challenge at said instrument;
- n. said instrument prompting said user for a personal identifier;
- o. receiving said personal identifier from said user;
- p. said instrument validating said personal identifier and unlocking said instrument; and
 - q. said instrument transmitting said response to said <u>first</u> server.

Claim 100 (previously presented): The method of claim 98, wherein the electronic purchase transaction is conducted using a digital wallet.

Claim 101 (previously presented): The method of claim 98, wherein the instrument is a smartcard.

Claim 102 (previously presented): The method of claim 98, wherein said electronic purchase transaction is a web-based transaction.

Claim 103 (previously presented): The method of claim 98, wherein said required information includes user name, user address, shipping address, card number, and payment amount.